

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
November 18, 2016

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, there will be no solid waste service offered on Thursday, November 24th. This service will be provided on Friday, November 25th. Please remember to place your carts out early Friday morning.

Dates to Remember

November 21, 2016 – Clewiston City Commission Meeting
November 24-25, 2016 – Thanksgiving Holiday – City Offices will be closed
December 12, 2016 – Clewiston Library Advisory Board Meeting
December 15, 2016 – Clewiston Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting
December 15, 2016 – Clewiston City Commission Workshop
December 19, 2016 – Clewiston City Commission Meeting
December 23-26, 2016 – Christmas Holiday – City Offices will be closed

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- B.A. Hospitality submitted their Development application for a four-story hotel to be located at 305 West Sugarland Hwy. Technical Review Committee met on November 16, 2016 to review and will send comments back to the applicant.
- The hospital has been issued a permit and site work has begun on their new rehabilitation center located at 525 West Sagamore Avenue.
- Temporary Certificates of Occupancy have been issued for Greentree West at 1044 West Ventura Avenue. This is a 50 unit senior housing development.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- The library survey is now closed and we are doing the analysis. As soon as that is completed we will release the results. Thanks to all those who participated. We will try our best to meet your expressed expectations.
- The senior computer class is now in its third week and is doing well. Thanks again to Danny Williams and Justin Lucas (JD) for helping to make it possible.
- The author of the book *Florida Roadkill*, Tim Dorsey, was here for a book signing in our library on November 17, 2016 at 6 PM. Several turned out for what was a very interesting presentation. Thanks to the Friends of the Clewiston Library for their assistance in this presentation.
- The After School program will be closed next week for the holiday. Sessions will start again on Monday November 28, 2016.

- The Hendry County Library Cooperative was visited yesterday by Jody Norman, Chief of the Bureau of Library Development, in Tallahassee. She had the chance to spend time at each library and was able to attend a cultural program in Harlem as well as the After School and Book signing programs in Clewiston. She expressed amazement at what we are accomplishing here in this small county in spite of our limited funds.
- For further questions, the Library's telephone number is 863-983-1493. You can also visit our website at www.hendrylibraries.org for more information and like us at www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary.

Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:

- Get all Clewiston Golf Course news. Visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov and sign up under Constant Contact. You will automatically be put on the golf course e-mail.
- Get your grips re-done. Contact the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- Golf lessons are available. Contact Robbie Rush at 863-983-1448.
- Greens were fertilized this week and tree trimming has started.
- Play is starting to pick up at the golf course. Tee times are required.
- Clewiston Golf Course has Sun Mountain Golf Bags, Titleist 917 Drivers, Imperial Logo Hats, Golf Buddy Range Finders, Tervis Tumblers, Ping Irons, Ping Woods, Putters, Wedges, Donald Ross Men's Shirts, Greg Norman Collection Women's Clothes and Outerwear for both men and women.
- Golf Course staff can get anything for you that pertains to golf. You can find great **Christmas Gifts** here in the golf shop.
- Remember the Clewiston Golf Course Facebook Website has a lot of info and great pictures. Check it out.
- All golf carts must now be in by 5:45 pm for the Fall and Winter season. First tee time every day is 7:30 am.
- The Clewiston Golf Course will be closed on Thanksgiving Day. Happy Thanksgiving!!
- The Wegscheid Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday December 3, 2016. Sign-up for the golf tournament is in the golf shop or call the golf shop 863-983-1448. Teams are comprised of 4 players. The golf course will be closed until 2:00 pm this day for regular play.
- Clewiston Golf Course is holding its annual Gators vs World Tournament on December 9-11, 2016. If you are interested in playing, contact the golf shop at 863-983-1448. The golf course will be closing on Friday December 9, 2016 at 1:00 pm. The golf course will be open for regular play all day on Saturday the 10th and Sunday the 11th.
- The golf staff has put together our January-June Tournament Schedule and Ladies/Junior Golf Clinics. You can pick up the booklets in the golf shop.
- Please rake bunkers, fill divots and stay back from the green slopes and tee slopes with the golf carts. The golf course is in wonderful shape and we as golfers have the responsibility to keep it that way. **Respect Your Surroundings!!** Thank You.
- If you are looking for people to play with, please ask someone on the golf staff. There are groups for everybody to play with no matter age or skill level. We will lead you.

Recreation Director Lance Ramer reports:

- **FREE 50+ T'ia Chi Classes coming to the Youth Center!** Free T'ia Chi classes for those individuals 50 years old and older will be offered at the Youth Center beginning on

Wednesday Dec. 7th from 9am – 10am and will continue every Wednesday thru Jan. 25th, 2017. This class is limited to the first 8 people that sign-up. Licensed Instructor Gretchen DeBree will be conducting the class. Registration applications and release forms are available at the Youth Center ONLY!

- **LEAGUES ARE FORMING NOW!** If you are interested in participating in Youth Basketball, Adult Kickball and/or Co-Ed Softball league contact Andre at 983-1492 for more information...
- The new slide and tire swing for Sweetest Town Playground that will replace ones vandalized, have arrived and will be placed as soon as possible.
- Trinidad Park, Candy Cane and Hidden Park were treated for emergent vegetation this week in and around playground areas and equipment.
- Sports Courts have inspected the tennis and basketball courts that were resurfaced earlier this summer and we have developed a punch list of issues that they will repair under warranty.
- Ballfield staff has begun to scuff hoe base paths, home plates and mounds in preparation for the addition of clay and the beginning of baseball/softball season.
- Ballfield crew began to spray applicate for emergent vegetation on the warning track in field #1 and treat fence lines this week.
- Field #1 at Sugarland Sports Complex was fertilized and treated for ants last week and top dressed in areas where emergent weeds were killed.
- Sugarland Sports Complex Maintenance shop, Sugarland Park Pavilion, bathrooms and several of the picnic structures were pressure washed last week.
- The submersible pump at the Civic Park has been replaced and irrigation repaired.
- Irrigation systems at Sugarland Sports Complex on all game fields have been checked and repaired this week and a new timer control box installed.
- Our senior citizens will participate in a “Holiday Luncheon” with the Belle Glade Sr. Citizens at the Banyan Tree Restaurant in Belle Glade on Nov. 21st at Noon. Thank you to the Clewiston Chamber of Commerce for use of their mini bus and Butch Wilson for volunteering to take our seniors on their day trip.
- Food Truck Invasion will be hosted by Live Missions Youth Development on Monday Nov. 21st at the Sugar Fest Field from 5-9pm... 18 different trucks, different activities, same GREAT community event..! Hope to see you there!
- AYSO Soccer continues to play regular season games at Sugarland Sports Complex.
- The Splash Pad will continue to be open on Tuesdays from 3-5pm, Thursdays from 10am-Noon and Saturday/Sundays from 9am-7pm.
- **UPCOMING** Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation:
 - Nov. 18th – Thanksgiving Luncheon 11-Noon Youth Center D.I.M.E.
 - Nov. 19th – Tiger Booster Dinner & Auction 6-11pm John Boy Auditorium
 - Nov. 19th – Birthday Party 2-8pm Youth Center
 - Nov. 19th – Baby Shower 2-4pm STP #4
 - Nov. 19th – Birthday Party 9am-7pm Sugarland Park Pavilion
 - Nov. 21st – Sr. Citizen Holiday Luncheon: with Belle Glade Seniors 11am-1pm Banyan Tree in BG
 - Nov. 21st – Food Truck Invasion 5-9pm Sugar Fest Field hosted by Live Mission Youth Development
 - Nov. 22nd CPD Training 8am-3pm Beardsley Room

- Nov. 22nd – HCC elect Emma Byrd reception 5:30-8:30pm Beardsley Room
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control: Trap counts: Okeechobee Blvd. 175, LD40; Golf Course 75 (wind); Berner Road 150, LD15. Air treatment is scheduled for the 22nd or the 23rd. FYI mosquito control can be hazardous to your health. The spray tech had a bear run across his path this week on Okeechobee Blvd. We have resumed ground treatments on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Street Maintenance: (1) Staff is working on preparations to decorate for Christmas. (2) Staff loaded several large rocks donated by Morris Ridgill this week. These rocks will be held in the Operations Yard till they can be installed in the park. (3) So happy to report that the pump has been replaced in the park and we have water. Staff and I drug hoses around for a week making sure the park was ready for the Veterans Day Service on Friday.
- Facility Maintenance: (1) Lights in the pavilion at the sports complex were repaired again! Staff is looking into installing a more vandal proof light fixture.
- Mowing Contract: This contract advertisement went into the newspaper on Monday and bid packets will be able to be picked up on Thursday at the City Hall.
- Drainage Project: Bids for the drainage project on San Gabriel and Alverde (Block 402) were opened on Tuesday. The Commission will discuss the recommendation made by the Public Works Director and Engineer on Thursday during the regular Workshop. Award of bid will be issued on Monday.
- Solid Waste: One hundred new tipper carts were ordered last week. Ten each 2 yard, ten each 4 yard and ten each 6 yard dumpsters were ordered this week. These are annual orders in the department. The department has seen an eight to one difference in the life of dumpsters since we changed over to the recycled plastic bins. This order will complete the change over from metal to plastic.
- Equipment purchase: The replacement for a twenty year old slide off/on grab loader unit was ordered this week. It is the same style and model we like and are currently getting very good service out of.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- Officers responded to a dustup on West Del Rio earlier in the week. A couple came home following an evening of liberal alcohol consumption and began to argue. During the course of the argument they each began destroying personal property within the residence. A third person in the home became concerned and called police. The pair was separated and went to different rooms to sleep it off. There was no report of physical contact between the two.
- A different domestic disturbance was reported on East Trinidad resulting in a physical altercation. An adult male was arrested for battery and transported to Hendry County Jail. Minor injuries were reported.
- The night shift responded to a report of a reckless driver on East Sugarland Highway Saturday night. Officers found the driver haphazardly crossing all four lanes of traffic as she entered and exited various parking lots generally headed West on Sugarland. At one

point she reversed course and headed back East in the West bound lanes. The driver eventually collided with a police vehicle as it sat blocking an intersection. The woman was then arrested without further incident. She is jailed in lieu of various charges. No injuries were reported.

- Following is a brief synopsis of various other activity for the week:

1114 Commercial / Residential Security Checks

498 Complaints Investigated

30 Traffic Citations Issued

15 Arrests Made

46 Red Light Camera Violations

56 Merchant Escorts

11 Alarms Responded To

7 Traffic Accidents Investigated

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- Water Sewer Activities
 - Repaired water breaks on East El Paso, Via Del Aqua, Trocadero and Mississippi
 - Repaired sewer clean outs on Crescent, Arcade and Mississippi
 - Lift Station Maintenance: Replaced pumps at Bass & Sun, Roland Martin's and East Sugarland Circle; Repaired 6" pump at main lift station; read all lift stations
 - Repaired water line at City Hall for irrigation
 - Jetted sewer line at KFC
- Electric Activities
 - Repaired bad underground line on South Lopez
 - Ran temporary service for new construction at Hospital
 - Identified and repaired voltage problem at Sewer Plant
 - Worked street light repairs at night to identify lights that were out and not reported
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom of the City's website page www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- **DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION!** Visit our office today.
- **ONLINE BILL PAY IS AVAILABLE** on our web site at www.clewiston-fl.gov or www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl.

PLEASE BE AWARE OF UTILITY PAYMENT SCAMS: Scam artists are calling Utility customers posing as employees of Clewiston Utilities and threatening disconnection of services if payment is not made immediately. Please be aware:

- 1) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER request you to purchase money cards or gift cards to pay your account over the phone.**
- 2) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER contact our customers on the weekend and threaten disconnection of services.**
- 3) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER speak to our customers in a threatening tone.**

If you feel you have been a victim of this scam, please contact Clewiston Utilities to verify the call or the Clewiston Police Department and file a report.